

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicants: | Van der Ploeg, et al. | Art Unit: |
| Serial No.: | To Be Assigned Case No.: 20561YDA | Examiner: |
| Filed: | June 25, 2003 | |
| For: | Melanocortin-3 Receptor Deficient Cells, Non-Human Transgenic Animals and Methods of Selecting Compounds Which Regulate Body Weight | |

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above-referenced case is a divisional application of U.S. application 09/709,066. Please examine the application after entry of the following amendments. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 13-2755 for the amount necessary for the entry of this amendment.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE OF DEPOSIT June 25, 2003
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 323153535 US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" BEFORE 5 P.M. ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231

MAILED BY K. Schepers DATE 6/25/03

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-29 and 33-35.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 8-11, with:

-- This application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/709,066, filed November 9, 2000, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/220,713, filed July 26, 2000, U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/165,141, filed November, 12, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/165,074, filed November, 12, 1999.--

REMARKS

Amendment of the Specification:

The specification has been amended to recite the priority filing of the application.

Because the amendments to the specification address matters of form and are supported in the specification as filed, no issue of New Matter is raised by the amendments.

Amendment of the Claims:

Claims 1-29 and 33-35 have been canceled. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 1-29 and 33-35 in any future continuing application(s).